

Fair Political Practices Commission
MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Johnson and Commissioners Hodson, Huguenin, Leidigh, and Remy

From: Scott Hallabrin, General Counsel

Subject: Adopt Proposed Amendment to Regulation 18421.2 to include Army Post Office and Fleet Post Office Addresses in the Definition of "Street Address"

Date: October 29, 2007

Proposed Commission Action: Adopt an amendment to Regulation 18421.2 to include Army and Air Force Post Office and Fleet Post Office addresses in the definition of street address.

Background: This amendment was not presented for prenotice discussion because staff believes it is a relatively non-controversial minor regulatory change. Notice of the proposed regulation has been published through the Office of Administrative Law.

The Political Reform Act requires that contributors supply their street address when contributing to campaigns or committees. (Section 84211.) Post office boxes are not permissible. In addition, a committee must return a contribution over \$100 within 60 days if the committee does not have the address and occupation of the contributor on file. (Section 85700.)

The electronic filing provisions of the Act provide that the Secretary of State may not post a person's street address on the internet. (Section 84602(d).) Regulation 18421.2 was adopted to require that contributors supply their city and zip code as part of their street address so that the Secretary of State could display only this information on its website instead of the entire street address.

Reason for Amendment: Recently, FPPC staff gave phone advice that a contribution by a member of the United States military had to be returned to the contributor because the contributor had supplied only an Army and Air Force Post Office (A.P.O.) address to the committee but no street address. Army and Air Post Office addresses are typically assigned to members of the United States Army or Air Force and their dependents who are overseas, whereas Fleet Post Office Addresses (F.P.O.'s) are typically assigned to members of the United States Navy and their dependents who are overseas. These addresses are also assigned to non-military United States personnel who may be overseas and are not in the same format as a street address.

This amendment is intended to ensure that those who have only A.P.O. or F.P.O. addresses are not prevented from making contributions because they lack a street address. The reason the Act requires street addresses to be reported is to prevent money laundering by identifying the location of the true source of funds. This amendment would further the purposes

of the Act because A.P.O. and F.P.O. addresses are the only way to locate contributors in some cases.

Recommendation: Adopt the amendments to Regulation 18421.2.